



Airman headed to Super Bowl XLII

Story and photo by
Senior Airman Taylor Marr
65th ABW Public Affairs

Imagine sitting in the hot sun at Arizona Stadium Feb. 3 watching the greatest spectacle in American sports – Super Bowl XLII.

This is where one Airman from Lajes Field will be.

Senior Airman Marcos Garcia, 65th Security Forces Squadron, won Football Frenzy 2007 and an all expense paid trip to the Super Bowl.

Each year USAFE bases sponsor Football Frenzy, an Air Force Services Program, at Air Force Clubs during the NFL season, explained Kent Jenkins, club manager. Prizes are provided by the Air Force Services Agency to encourage participation throughout the season, he said. The contest is only open to club members. Members only need to fill out an entry form to participate.

The entry forms are then sent to the Air Force Services Agency in San Antonio, Texas. At the end of the season, a number of winners are drawn for Super Bowl trips, Pro Bowl trips and other prizes, Mr. Jenkins explained. More than 10,000 entries were received this year for the 2007 Football Frenzy. Club members can complete one entry form for each Football Frenzy event and there is still time to win. The TORC routinely sponsors two events per week. The contest will end with the Super Bowl on Feb. 3.

Football has been in Airman Garcia's life for as long as he can remember.

"My father and I watched football when I was younger, along with my older sister and nephew. We would be in the living room on Monday Nights or on Sundays watching the game" said Airman Garcia.

He chose his father to accompany him as his guest at the Super Bowl.

"I decided to take my dad because he

is a huge football fan and it's a once in a lifetime opportunity," Airman Garcia said. "Besides, after everything he has done for his family — it's the least I can do."

In two weeks Airman Garcia and his father will be enjoying their free trip to the Super Bowl.

"I'm excited and can't wait to go, but I think my dad is more excited to go at the moment," he said.

"I never thought I would win."



Senior Airman
Marcos Garcia

Improvements underway for base exchange

By Capt. Shilo Weir
65th ABW Public Affairs

It is visibly apparent to regular Lajes Army and Air Force Exchange Service customers that change is just around the corner.

In an effort to create a centralized shopping location, in a top-of-the-line facility, the Ocean View and Flight View Base Exchanges will consolidate in 2008.

"Over the years, the Flight View BX has aged and currently is in general disrepair," said Ed Hick, Lajes AAFES General Manager. "It is old, rundown and the roof leaks terribly."

Similar to the state of the old Shoppette, the current facilities are not set up in a way that best serves the customers. During the past six months, senior AAFES representatives from Europe, including leadership, planners and archi-

ects, traveled to Lajes to help design the road ahead.

"In the months to come, customers will see physical changes to the Ocean View store that will make room for the new layout and accommodate merchandise from both stores," said Mr. Hicks.

The plans for renovation consist of two primary phases. The first phase of renovation and improvements for customers will be almost immediate and take place during the year-end inventory which begins next week. The Ocean View BX will close for the day Thursday and, during that time, the cashier's cage and customer service desks in the back of the store will consolidate.

"This change will get our facility in line with AAFES practices world-wide, and create more efficient service for our customers," explained Mr. Hicks.

Phase two of the renovation plan is aimed at creating an improved Ocean View store that will include a hybrid of merchandise based on sales trends and customer-indicated needs. Renovations to the flooring in the Ocean View BX and to the front entrance of the building will allow for a new floor plan and expanded merchandise.

"This next phase will take more time and doesn't have a solid timeline, but we hope for completion during the summer of 2008," said Mr. Hicks.

The improved Base Exchange does come with limitations. The final product will not provide the same merchandise selection seen in larger AAFES stores in Europe, but customers are reminded that they do not need to go without.

"Most people don't realize that AAFES will work with customers to get them items avail-

able at other AAFES retailers," said Mr. Hicks. "Customer Convenience Orders are available to anyone who asks. By telling us what you want, and giving us a realistic amount of time, and we can get it for you."

The BX renovation and consolidation promises improved customer service, with focused and available merchandise, enhancing the overall shopping experience.

AAFES Closures

- ☐ Monday, Flight View BX closed for inventory
- ☐ Thursday, Ocean View BX closed for inventory
- ☐ Jan. 25, Gas Station closed until noon for inventory
- ☐ Jan. 26, Shoppette closed (will reopen when inventory finished; late afternoon/evening)



Make mentoring part of who you are

By Maj. Chris Nutting
65th Comptroller Squadron Commander

There's great value in being part of the mentoring process. Although the process is both a responsibility and obligation of leadership, it is also a great opportunity for all wingmen to positively change lives, attitudes and behaviors of our Airmen today.

We have a unique opportunity here at Lajes to access many levels of leadership knowledge and experience in our effort to mentor our people. I draw guidance from previous personal and military role models on a regular basis. However, I also learn much from those I mentor who bring an air of enthusiasm and fresh innovative ideas.

Everyone benefits through the mentoring process. Experience and knowledge are passed on, traditions, shared values and relationships are also strengthened. Airmen better understand their roles and where they fit into our Air Force goals. Leaders at every level both understand and communicate goals to their members providing the knowledge necessary to perform their tasks and better support our Air Force mission.

I have carried with me over the years the words of many influential people in my life. My father once said when giving me career advice; find something you love that's honest and legal. Another mentor of mine was a firm believer in integrity and everything it stood for. He always believed that your word is your bond until proven otherwise. Others have taught me the value of balancing your family and military career, never giving up, and that the future is always planned today. Of course no difficult decision can be

completely finalized until asking the question: what would Col. W. (my mentor) do if he were here? These powerful words of past mentors ring loudly as my subconscious mind goes through day-to-day events. More important than the words we say to those who look up to us, is how we communicate. We lead and mentor by our actions, attitude and leadership style. We empower others for them to empower others; we listen to learn and learn to listen.

Often my personal experience has shown that I learn more from those Airmen I teach than they may ever learn from me. I've definitely learned to never underestimate the capability of our Airmen today. When given a challenge, combined with clear guidance, they continually raise the performance bar to new heights.

They've challenged me to be the best I can be, to look at things from a different perspective, to question the way things have always been done, and to think outside the box in my daily activities. Whether giving or receiving, mentorship will always be open to the learning opportunity it presents.

We have more access to leadership and mentoring opportunities here than anywhere I've been. From Airmen through senior leaders, there's a "positive" air about talking with others, sharing experiences, and doing whatever one can to help individual(s). That's one of the many benefits of being in our island community: a genuine interest in taking care of others. Let's all do our part to be excellent mentors. You never know what the value of going the extra step is going to be.

535-4240

actionline@lajes.af.mil

The Commander's Line is your link to me for suggestions, kudos and as a way to work

problems or issues within the 65th Air Base Wing for which you can't find another solution.

Your chain of command

should always be your first option for praise or problems — but when that's not the answer, call or e-mail the Commander's Line at 535-4240 or actionline@lajes.af.mil.



Col. JL Briggs

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Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



The 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Crossroads.

Submissions can be e-mailed to news@lajes.af.mil and are due a week prior to the publication date.

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized weekly publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas.

Contents of the Crossroads are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

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First Sergeant Notes

So, you don't have two dimes to rub together?

Financial stability is a diminishing dream for many Air Force members. It's important to remember that a stable and secure financial future means saying, "No" to those purchases that you can't afford. Credit cards are a great tool but if your bank account can't pay-off that end of month balance, you're throwing away money; increasing debt and high interest rates equal a financial tail spin. If you're already in trouble, a visit to the Airman and Family Readiness Center can provide the critical counseling to put you on the road to recovery. If debt is not a problem, the A&FRC can provide savings and investment counseling to assist you in planning an even more secure future. In either case, the result is a happier, less stressful life and an increase in mission readiness.

—Master Sgt. Ed Canino
65th Civil Engineer Squadron First Sergeant



I wish someone told me ...

By Tech. Sgt. Christin Michaud
65th ABW Public Affairs

My family and I have been stationed at Lajes for more than two years. We love the assignment, the island and the people. Of course, we miss some of the comforts of home too.

Having been here so long, I wish there were some things I knew about to make being here even more enjoyable.

One day, shortly after my friend Sandra had her baby, I picked her up to take her to the commissary. It happened to be a Thursday. Sandra has also been stationed here for two years. Her comment in the store was, "I can't believe all the stuff they have. I've never seen it this well stocked." Sandra didn't know that the plane that brings a lot of our perishable items, including produce and meat, comes in on Thursdays. She usually did her shopping on Saturdays.

It made me realize that there are lots of things people don't know about or share with other people on the island. I don't think it is because they are hoarding the information, I think

most people assume that if they know, then so do their friends.

We'd already been here for two years before someone told me about Vonage, which is just one of many Voice Over Internet Protocol services (Skype is another common one) that exist allowing people to call the United States and other countries for a fraction of the cost. The service works on a regular telephone, but through the computer. I was amazed at the concept of having the same quality service when I call my friends and family. Instead of phone bills that average 60 euro each month, we now pay approximately \$25 for our service and now only 16 euro for our local service. With the euro rate as strong as it is, we welcomed the savings. There are several VOIP services, so I encourage people to shop online for the best deal that suits their needs. One of the best features of the VOIP services is that you are assigned a stateside telephone number so friends and family can call you like they are calling people in the states. This can be handy for on-line as well. I can't tell you how many times I was ordering something online but wasn't able to process the order because my international phone number was invalid.

Speaking of shopping – there is another service that not everyone who comes here gets told about. It's called ShipitAPO™. This company will assign you a stateside address, repackaging and ship your mail to an APO address. This is perfect for companies that offer free

shipping but only through UPS or Fed Ex. It also works for companies that choose not to ship to APO addresses because of the customs form requirement. ShipitAPO™ charges a handling fee and shipping costs, but sometimes it's worth it to have that option when you are in a remote location. In the past I would have items shipped to family members and ask them to mail it to me. Although they always seemed willing, their sense of urgency wasn't the same as mine. Since ShipitAPO™ is a business, they have a quick turn around on getting products out. The address you are assigned depends on what your address is, but since our stuff comes through New York, it will typically be in the northeast.

I've always felt that overseas assignments are a wonderful opportunity to experience new cultures and new things. I believe that with services like VOIP and companies like ShipitAPO™, we can have some of the comforts of being in the United States.

I wish someone would have told me about VOIP and ShipitAPO™ sooner. I also wish someone told me about the café on the island that serves a hamburger that resembles one I enjoy getting in the states – one with two all beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese ... know that one?

There are other things we can share with each other. If you know of something or can fill in the sentence "I wish someone told me ...," e-mail news@lajes.af.mil. Submissions will be published in Crossroads Xtra.

Notice of Accreditation Survey

The Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. will conduct an accreditation survey of the 65th Medical Group Feb. 4-8.

The survey will be used to evaluate compliance with AAAHC standards for ambulatory health care and to determine if accreditation should be awarded or retained.

The ultimate purpose of the accreditation process is to improve the quality of health care delivered by this organization.

The 65th MDG has voluntarily requested this survey as a means of assisting its own efforts to improve the delivery of quality health care.

Members of the general public, patients, and individuals believing that they have pertinent and valid information about this organization's provision of health care or compliance with AAAHC standards, may request an information presentation with AAAHC surveyors at the time of the survey to present such information, or may communicate such information in writing or by telephone to the AAAHC. All information received from identified individuals at or prior to the survey will be considered in making the accreditation decision. Requests for presentation must be received at least two weeks prior to the survey. Requests for public information presentations or reporting may be communicated in writing or by telephone to AAAHC at the following address and telephone number: Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc., 5250 Old Orchard Road, Suite 200, Skokie, IL 60077, Telephone (847) 853-6060, FAX (847) 853-9028.

-----Lajes Salutes-----

□ Way to go to Team Lajes' promotees for January: *To Senior Airman: Ashley Billingsley*, 729th Air Mobility Squadron; *Krystal Dittmer*, 65th Communications Squadron; *Celestino Leal*, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron; and *Angela Ortiz*, 65th Security Forces Squadron. *To Staff Sergeant: Nicholas Neven*, 65th CS; and *Samantha Shirley*, 65th CS. *To Technical Sergeant: Cona Billyzone*, 65th CES; and *Daniel Jacobson*, 65th CS. *To Master Sergeant: Robert Lucas*, 65th Medical Support Squadron. *To Captain: Nicole Lucas*, 65th Medical Support Squadron.

□ Congratulations to the **65th Communications Squadron** for winning the ATLAS Award. The award recognizes organizations who achieve a top quality sponsorship program.

□ Kudos to **Staff Sgt. Rachel Taylor**, 65th Mission Support

Squadron, who was presented the The Lajes Field Chiefs' Group Top Performer Award.

□ Congratulations to the **65th Air Base Wing Safety Office** for winning the USAFE Outstanding Achievement Award for Safety.

□ Congratulations to the winners of the Club's Moombership Drive: The Grand Prize winner of a \$1,000 credit to his Club Card is: **Tech. Sgt. Jeff Linville**. The 2nd place prize of a \$500 credit to his Club Card goes to: **Master Sgt. Scott Williams**; and the 3rd place winner of a \$250 credit to her Club Card is: **Senior Airman Carrie Kay**.

□ The Medical Group thanks the 230 donors who stepped up to join the Marrow Donor Program registry to give another person a chance at surviving one of more than 70 fatal diseases.



Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
6:05 a.m. Step 10 a.m. Thrift store open 11:15 a.m. Students released for staff training day 5:30 p.m. Build your own pasta meal, TORC 7 p.m. August Rush (PG) 7:30 p.m. Cosmic Bowling 8 p.m. R&B DJ, TORC 10 p.m. Hitman (R)	10 a.m. Pico Negroao hiking trip. \$10 11 a.m. Fleamarket, LYP Noon: Library open 1 p.m. MLK All-star Basketball game, HS gym 5:30 p.m. Prime Rib, TORC 7 p.m. This Christmas (PG-13) 10 p.m. Hitman	9 a.m. Dolphin watching, \$48 9 a.m. Evangelical Service 9 a.m. CCD 10:30 a.m. Mass 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 11:40 a.m. Praise Service Noon: Praise Service 2 p.m. August Rush 7 p.m. This Christmas	MLK Holiday, no school 10 a.m. Flightview BX closed for inventory 11 a.m. Quinta do Martelo: Cultural and Culinary Adventure, \$48. 11 a.m. MLK special lunch, dining facility 11 a.m. Charity Golf Tournament, 10 euro + green fees	7:15 a.m. Circuit Training 10 a.m. EDIS Playgroup, LYP 11:30 a.m. Daily Mass Noon Protestant Men of the Chapel lunch, fellowship hall (lunch provided) 5:30 p.m. Mongolian BBQ, TORC 6 p.m. AWANA, chapel	9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Health Fair, CAC ballroom 10 a.m. Career Goal Setting, A&FRC 5 p.m. Family Night Bowling Rent-A-Lane \$7.50/hr lane \$1 shoe rental 6 p.m. \$.35 wings at the TORC 6:30 p.m. Parenting Skills, A&FRC	7:15 a.m. Circuit Training 9:30 a.m. MOPS, chapel 10 a.m. Ocean View BX closed for inventory 11:30 a.m. Daily Mass 1 p.m. Living Within Your Means, A&FRC 2 p.m. Beginning Excel, A&FRC 7 p.m. Hitman 9 p.m. Karaoke, TORC

Movies 535-3302

Jan. 25: 7 p.m. Enchanted (PG); 10 p.m. The Mist (R)
 For a synopsis or up-to-date information, visit <http://www.aafes.com/ems/euro/lajes.htm>

Dining Facility 535-2256

Martin Luther King Day Dining Facility Meal: 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday special meal featuring entrées such as: Southern fried chicken, baked ham, BBQ ribs and baked fish.

A&FRC 535-4138

Smooth Move Seminar: 2 to 4 p.m. Jan. 28 at the A&FRC.
Bundles for Babies: 1 to 5 p.m. Jan. 29 at the A&FRC.
New Beginnings: 9 to 10:30 a.m. Jan. 30 at the A&FRC.

NAF Jobs 535-5200/6582

Community Activity Center: Recreation Aid
Child Development Center: Program Assistant
Vet Clinic: Office Automation Clerk

Thrift Store 535-4146

Volunteers: The Thrift Store is looking for volunteers. Call 535-4146.
Store Director position: The Thrift Shop is now accepting applications until Feb. 1. This is a paid part-time position.

Library 535-3688

New Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday. Noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and 2 to 6 p.m. American Holidays. Closed Portuguese Holidays.

Arts & Crafts 535-3909

Beginning Sewing: Make a Pillow Feb. 2. \$24
Cake Decorating Class: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday. \$25

Outdoor Rec 535-3302

Hiking Trips: Baia da Mina, 10 a.m. Feb. 2
4X4 Photo Tour: 4-hour tour - 9 a.m. Jan. 26. \$35/adults, \$20/children; 8-hour tour, 9 a.m. Feb. 2. \$55/adults, \$30/children. Price includes CD with pictures of tour
Paintball: 9 a.m. Jan. 26, \$20

HAWC 535-3889

Lajes HAWC Fitness Library: The HAWC now has an up-to-date library of fitness DVD's for anyone to check out. Topics range from Aerobics, Step, Weight lifting, Body Building, Skip Rope, Indoor cycling and many more.

TORC 535-3202

Mongolian BBQ: 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, \$.65/oz
Chili Dog Wednesday: Chili Dog for \$2.25 plus karaoke with DG "Scooby"
Make Your Own Meal Pasta: Friday nights - Pasta Buffet. \$12.95/adults; \$6.95/children 7-12 years old. Choose from several types of pasta (Fettucine, Bow Tie, Spaghetti and Noodles), Sauces - Alfredo Carbonara, Bolognese, Meat - Chicken, Bacon, Beef, Ham, Italian Sausage and Shrimp and a variety of vegetables.
Sunday Brunch - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 17 and 24. \$15.95/adults; \$7.95/children from 7-12 years old.
Superbowl Party: 11 p.m. Feb. 3 in the ballroom. Includes buffet from 11:30 p.m. until halftime. Bits and Bites menu will be available from halftime until the end

of the game. There will be prizes and games throughout the evening. \$5 for members and \$15 for nonmembers.

Give Parents a Break

GPAB date change: Due to the Goal day Jan. 25, GPAB at the LYP and CDC has changed to Feb. 1. Sign up by Jan. 30. Call the CDC at 535-3188 or the LYP at 535-1197 for more information.

Fitness Center 535-5151

Power Lifting Competition: 10 a.m. Feb. 23. Bench press, dead lift and squat. Male and female weight divisions starting at 105 lbs to 275+ lbs. Competitor meeting will be held 2 days prior to event. Register by Feb. 13.
Sweetheart Family 5K Run: 7:30 a.m. Feb. 15.

Classified Ads

E-mail classified ads to news@lajes.af.mil by 5 p.m. the Thursday prior to the week you need it published. Notify the Crossroads when items have been sold. Lajes personnel may also post ads at Lajesads.com. This site is not affiliated with the Crossroads.

For Sale: Electric Guitar, Fender Stratocaster + case, Sunburst color, 350 euros (new costs 650E) Call Claudia Santos at 969637545

Wanted: Looking for babycrib, if you have one for sale call george at 919807736 or Email: gaspar.jorge@hotmail.com

Books for Sale: "The Everlasting Angel and the Mountains of Fire" is a Christian historical fiction novel geared toward junior high/high school youth but is enjoyed by "kids" of all ages! This book is co-authored by Dr. Peter Kurowski and Elizabeth Schepeler. It sells for \$15. For more information or to purchase a copy, contact Elizabeth at 96-312-2492 or ers_slp@yahoo.com

Nanny available: PCSing and Maura is great. Takes wonderful care of our 1 year old. Speaks great English. Available immediately. Please call Justin or Becky at 295-549-599 for a reference. Maura's number is 964-729-073 is you wish to speak to her directly.

Wanted: Donations - clothes, shoes, toys, books, household items, etc. All donations are used for the Lajes High School sports teams to raise money for travel. Will pick up donations, e-mail lajes15@yahoo.com. Thank you for your support.